

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for monitoring replication of domain controllers and correcting problems with replication within a directory service environment, the method comprising:

 querying the ~~director~~ directory service for replication information;

 determining whether an error ~~exist~~ exists based upon the replication information;

 correcting the error if an error exists; and

 visually displaying information regarding the progress of the domain controller replication process, wherein the information includes the identity of domain controller replication partners and the status of the replication process between any two domain controller replication partners.

2. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein correcting the error if an error exists comprises:

 consulting a knowledge base to determine whether an entry for an error type associated with the error exists in the knowledge base, wherein the knowledge base contains entries for error types and associated corrective actions; and

 taking corrective actions identified by the knowledge base as associated with the error type if the error type is found in the knowledge base.

3. (Original) The method as recited in claim 2, further comprising:

prior to taking corrective action, determining whether the corrective action is authorized under conditions as currently exist in the director service environment.

4. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

paging support personnel if it is determined that the corrective action has failed to resolve the error.

5. (Original) The method as recited in claim 4, further comprising:

logging information regarding the nature of the error, failed corrective action taken, and personnel paged.

6. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of visually displaying information regarding the progress of the domain controller replication process comprises graphical indicia of relationships between domain controller partners.

7. (Original) The method as recited in claim 6, wherein the indicia comprises a line.

8. (Original) The method as recited in claim 7, wherein the nature of the progress and severity of any errors related to the replication process between domain controller replication partners is indicated by color wherein different colors represent different levels of errors and lack of errors.

9. (Currently Amended) A computer program product in a computer readable media for use in a data processing system for monitoring replication of domain controllers and correcting problems with replication within a directory service environment, the computer program product comprising:

first instructions for querying the ~~director~~ directory service for replication information;

second instructions for determining whether an error ~~exist~~ exists;

third instructions for correcting the error if an error exists; and

fourth instructions for visually displaying information regarding the progress of the domain controller replication process, wherein the information includes the identity of domain controller replication partners and the status of the replication process between any two domain controller replication partners.

10. (Original) The computer program product as recited in claim 9, wherein correcting the error if an error exists comprises:

fifth instructions for consulting a knowledge base to determine whether an entry for an error type associated with the error exists in the knowledge base, wherein the knowledge base contains entries for error types and associated corrective actions; and

sixth instructions for taking corrective actions identified by the knowledge base as associated with the error type if the error type is found in the knowledge base.

11. (Original) The computer program product as recited in claim 10, further comprising:

seventh instructions for determining whether the corrective action is authorized under conditions as currently exist in the director service environment prior to taking corrective action.

12. (Original) The computer program product as recited in claim 9, further comprising:

fifth instructions for paging support personnel if it is determined that the corrective action has failed to resolve the error.

13. (Original) The computer program product as recited in claim 12, further comprising:

sixth instructions for logging information regarding the nature of the error, failed corrective action taken, and personnel paged.

14. (Currently Amended) The computer program product as recited in claim 9, wherein the ~~step of~~ fourth instructions for visually displaying information regarding the progress of the domain controller replication process comprises graphical indicia of relationships between domain controller partners.

15. (Original) The computer program product as recited in claim 14, wherein the indicia comprises a line.

16. (Original) The computer program product as recited in claim 15, wherein the nature of the progress and severity of any errors related to the replication process between domain controller replication partners is indicated by color wherein different colors represent different levels of errors and lack of errors.

17. (Currently Amended) A system for monitoring replication of domain controllers and correcting problems with replication within a directory service environment, the system comprising:

first means for querying the ~~director~~ directory service for replication information;

second means for determining whether an error ~~exist~~ exists;

third means for correcting the error if an error exists; and

fourth means for visually displaying information regarding the progress of the domain controller replication process, wherein the information includes the identity of domain controller replication partners and the status of the replication process between any two domain controller replication partners.

18. (Original) The system as recited in claim 17, wherein correcting the error if an error exists comprises:

fifth means for consulting a knowledge base to determine whether an entry for an error type associated with the error exists in the knowledge base, wherein the knowledge base contains entries for error types and associated corrective actions; and

sixth means for taking corrective actions identified by the knowledge base as associated with the error type if the error type is found in the knowledge base.

19. (Original) The system as recited in claim 18, further comprising:

seventh means for determining whether the corrective action is authorized under conditions as currently exist in the director service environment prior to taking corrective action.

20. (Original) The system as recited in claim 17, further comprising:

fifth means for paging support personnel if it is determined that the corrective action has failed to resolve the error.

21. (Original) The system as recited in claim 20, further comprising:

sixth means for logging information regarding the nature of the error, failed corrective action taken, and personnel paged.

22. (Currently Amended) The system as recited in claim 17, wherein the ~~step of~~ fourth means for visually displaying information regarding the progress of the domain controller replication process comprises graphical indicia of relationships between domain controller partners.

23. (Original) The system as recited in claim 22, wherein the indicia comprises a line.

24. (Original) The system as recited in claim 23, wherein the nature of the progress and severity of any errors related to the replication process between domain controller replication partners is indicated by color wherein different colors represent different levels of errors and lack of errors.

25. (Canceled) A graphical user interface for providing a user with information concerning a domain controller replication process in a directory service environment, the graphical user interface comprising:

visual representations of domain controllers within the environment; and

visual indicia indicating an identity of a domain controller's replication partner; wherein

the visual indicia indicate whether errors in the replication process exist between the domain controller and the domain controller's replication partner.

26. (Canceled) The graphical user interface as recited in claim 25, wherein the visual representations comprise icons.

27. (Canceled) The graphical user interface as recited in claim 25, wherein the visual representations comprise pictorial representations of domain controllers.

28. (Canceled) The graphical user interface as recited in claim 25, wherein the visual indicia comprises a line between a domain controller and the domain controller's replication partner.

29. (Canceled) The graphical user interface as recited in claim 28, wherein the line is one of a solid bold line, a dashed bold line, and a solid unbold line, wherein each of the solid bold line, dashed bold line, and solid unbold line represent different performance levels of the replication process.

30. (Canceled) The graphical user interface as recited in claim 28, wherein differing line colors represent different performance levels of the replication process between the domain controller and the domain controller's replication partner.

31. (Canceled) The graphical user interface as recited in claim 25, wherein at least one of the visual representations and visual indicia are selectable by a user to provide additional information about the replication progress.